California GARDEN

FORTY-SECOND YEAR | SUMMER 1951 | VOLUME 42, NO. 2

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CALIFORNIA GARDEN

Published Quarterly by the
SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION
Under the sponsorship of
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Managing Editor.....Dorothy Abbott
Compositor.....Mabel Hazard

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Balboa Park
San Diego 1, California

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San Diego County Florists Assn.
Convair Garden Club
San Diego County Dahlia Society
National Fuchsia Society San Diego Branch
American Begonia Society San Diego Branch

CALENDAR of EVENTS

Note: The regular monthly meetings of the Floral Association will be omitted in July and August, because of the summer musical activities in Balboa Park. Unless otherwise stated, the following meetings will be held in the Floral Association Building, southwest of the Organ in Balboa Park.

JUNE

SUNDAY, JUNE 3 . . . . 1 to 5 p. m.
Open House
Flower show presented by Convair Garden Club.

TUESDAY, JUNE 19 . . . . . 8 p. m.
Annual Meeting of the Floral Association. Election of Officers.
Ballot to be voted upon:

Officers:
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Guy L. Fleming, Vice-President
W. Allen Perry, Treasurer
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Lecture: Old Wives' Tales—
Alfred C. Hottes.

JULY

SUNDAY, JULY 1 . . . . 1 to 5 p. m.
Open House
Exhibit in charge of San Diego Branch of the American Begonia Society.

SUNDAY, JULY 22 . . . . 1 to 5 p. m.
Annual Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Show, Convair Garden Club

AUGUST

SUNDAY, AUGUST 5 . . . 1 to 5 p. m.
Open House
Flower Show presented by San Diego Branch of the National Fuchsia Society .

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19 . . . 1 to 5 p. m.
Flower Show, featuring Dahlias, Convair Garden Club

SUMMER FLOWER SHOWS

SATURDAY and SUNDAY, AUGUST 4 and 5, in Recital Hall, Balboa Park.
Dahlia Show, under the auspices of the San Diego County Dahlia Society.

SATURDAY and SUNDAY, AUGUST 25 and 26, in Tea Pavilion Gardens, Balboa Park.
Flower Show, under the auspices of the San Diego Branch of the American Begonia Society.

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California Garden

Forty-Second Year | SUMMER, 1951 | Volume 42, No. 2

Each issue of "California Garden" contains an article suggested or written by members of the Civic Landscape Committee, San Diego Floral Association. In this issue Dorothy Abbott takes for her title one from an article written on the subject and adds three magic words—

HOW ABOUT A GARDEN CENTER *IN SAN DIEGO?*

DOROTHY ABBOTT

On March 21st of this year I had an appointment with the Park Commission. I was sent as an emisary from the Board of Directors of the San Diego Floral Association with the request that a site in Balboa Park be designated and assigned as a future garden or horticultural center for San Diego. The request was granted and I quote here from the minutes of the meeting.

"After discussion it was moved by Mrs. Marcy, seconded by Dr. Lowe and unanimously carried that the Park Commission go on record as being in favor of the development of a Garden Center in Balboa Park, and will seek to have such a center incorporated in any plans for development of the area in the vicinity of the Tea Pavilion and the Botanical Building."

It was with a feeling of elation that I reported back to our members. The idea of a garden center had been accepted with understanding and quiet enthusiasm. Growing in usefulness and grace seems to all of us the natural continuation of our organization. We are more than lucky to have inherited this Association which, without calling itself, had from its beginning in 1907 the garden center ideal at heart. To realize this we have only to follow the story of garden centers in our United States and compare their inspirations, plans and material set-up with what we already have in our community. Garden centers seem as inevitable as gardening itself. We are all gardeners at heart, with the urge to make our dwelling place and the community as beautiful as possible. We not only want to get together and talk about it, but we want some central place where we may learn or show others how to achieve those ends.

"A Garden Center is community headquarters for affairs horticultural, open to everyone in the community."

This is the most concise definition I have found. It was in an article entitled "How About a Garden Center?" which appeared in "House Beautiful," for June, 1946.

The article goes on to say, "It draws the people of a democracy together in a joint enterprise which nourishes the habit of communal cooperation. It is another version of the Town Meeting—only specialized as to subject matter discussed. The average garden club, worthy as is its work, does not fill this bill. The garden center provides popular education, adult and youth, at little or no cost. It encourages better up-keep of the home, which means a better neighborhood, more graceful living, while safe-guarding the tax structure of your city. The garden center makes possible additions to the horticultural beauty of the whole city."

Before becoming active in the work of the San Diego Floral Association, my knowledge of garden centers was confined to the Berkshire Garden Center near Stockbridge in the beautiful hills of Western Massachusetts. It was the third garden center to be founded, and not so long ago—1934. In a rural area composed of a number of scattered communities, its fame is such that support comes from gardeners and organizations in many states. It was a long jump from the garden house made from the little old New England cottage beside the brook—to the Greater Cleveland Garden Center, the most famous of them all, which was the second to be founded.

Another, a relatively new one, in Jacksonville, Florida, has had a sensational start. In 1938 a fund was set aside in the treasury of the Garden Club of Jacksonville and earmarked "Garden Center." In 1948 the first unit of the center was opened, having been built on a large waterfront lot. After 11 years the lot is entirely free of debt, $36,000 having been paid. The building cost $22,000. An experimental rose garden has also been

planted. Membership in the garden club has 101 circles, with 2700 members, and two years ago the Jacksonville Garden Club started a magazine. It's on the exchange list with "California Garden."

But I had to come nearer home, into our own State Capitol, to find the garden center that could give us in San Diego the most help as a model. When you read these excerpts from a letter from Mrs. Shepard, President of the Sacramento Garden Center, you will understand why.

"The Sacramento Garden Center was founded in 1941 by Miss Marie Bosworth, who was at that time, State Chairman of Garden Centers, California Garden Clubs, Inc., in cooperation with the late Frederick N. Evans, well known as superintendent of Sacramento City Parks. At that time it consisted of only half a dozen garden clubs.

"In 1950 the records show 27 member clubs of the Center. There are 13 garden clubs, 8 flower societies, 1 conservation group and 5 related arts groups. All but two garden clubs use the Center as a regular meeting place.

"All the meetings are given publicity and are open to the public free of charge. The member groups also help with various fund raising projects, to carry on the work of the Center and to put away funds in the treasury toward a better and larger building, in line with the growth of Sacramento.

"The Garden Center building is owned and maintained by the Sacramento City Park Department. They furnish light, heat, janitor service, painting, repair, etc. They are also cooperative in other ways, such as giving assistance in flower shows, as well as the storage space for show props and containers, which have been purchased by the Center from year to year. In fact, they are wonderful.

"The building is kept looking attractive, colorful and inviting at all times. Northern California Arts, a member organization, leaves a new group of paintings every month; other exhibits from the Sierra Club and exhibits of weaving, pottery and other crafts are often on display. Also there are flower arrangements, named specimens of plants, books and periodicals on display for enjoyment and educational value."

The Aims and Purposes of the Sacramento Garden Center are as follows:

1. To create a better, happier and more beautiful community through sharing garden inspiration and knowledge.

2. To foster more and better gardens within and about the community.

3. To provide a meeting place and workshop for garden groups.

4. To perform a public service through promoting an educational program by means of garden clubs, study classes, library, bulletins, clinics of information, lectures, demonstrations, displays, flower shows, and garden tours.

5. To promote the advancement of horticulture, flower shows, and to promote the use of correct botanical plant names, and conservation of native plant life and natural resources.

6. To provide study classes in landscape design, flower arrangement and related arts such as architecture, color, photography, ceramics, etc.

7. To coordinate the efforts and resources of the various garden groups.

8. To cooperate with the state organization known as California Garden Clubs, Inc., the Sacramento City Park Department, civic planning groups and local clubs whose interest covers gardening, nursery work, seed production, landscape design, botany, natural history and the work of art galleries and art schools.

9. To assist in perpetuating the name Camellia City for Sacramento.

Last September I visited this garden center and learned that plans for more buildings were being drawn up in cooperation with the City Park Department, to have room for work shops, glass houses, library, test gardens, etc.

Then I brought the idea home to the City of San Diego. The big question was what material have we to use in the building of a Civic Garden Center?

We have a Park Commission which, since 1916, gave one of the Exposition buildings for use of the Floral Association. We have the San Diego Floral Association. The 25 founders, who started the society in 1904, helped greatly in creating Balboa Park. The beautiful building which has an auditorium, a kitchen and storeroom and cupboards for our valuable books, has been the center ever since for meetings of citizens interested in matters horticultural. Only for a few years were the meetings held elsewhere, when most of our park was used by the Naval Hospital.

The City Park Department, as in Sacramento, maintains the building and I can repeat the words of Mrs. Shepard that all the people working in the park have been "wonderful" when it comes to interest and help. We now have 11 Affiliated Societies, nine of which use the Floral Building for meetings.

As we are the old established organization, we have kept what we considered fitting for our new city and its too rapid growth, but attempted to change the pattern of our activities to meet the present day conditions. We also have revised our by-laws. Each affiliate

has a representative director on our board. We all work together on civic projects such as Open House, held on the first Sunday afternoon of each month.

For many years the San Diego Floral Association put on the only big flower shows — Spring and Fall. Now, we, the Floral Association present the Fall Show—the Chrysanthemum Festival in October. This Spring found us arranging a May Garden Tour, not only for our own joy, but providing a way for the new residents or transients to see something of San Diego outside of the defense effort. The specialty flower shows have had our blessing.

Our magazine, "California Garden," is in its 42nd year. It is sent free to each member and subscriptions come from 27 states and 11 foreign countries. It is sent free to every library in the County.

So, when I read the challenge, how about a garden center, I say, well, what has a garden center that we don't hold in the palms of our hands? We have everything but just not room to grow. We want work shops and potting sheds, a building and library to be available every day, and a Director-Librarian with a fund of authoritative horticultural knowledge. And we need a spot near the city transit system.

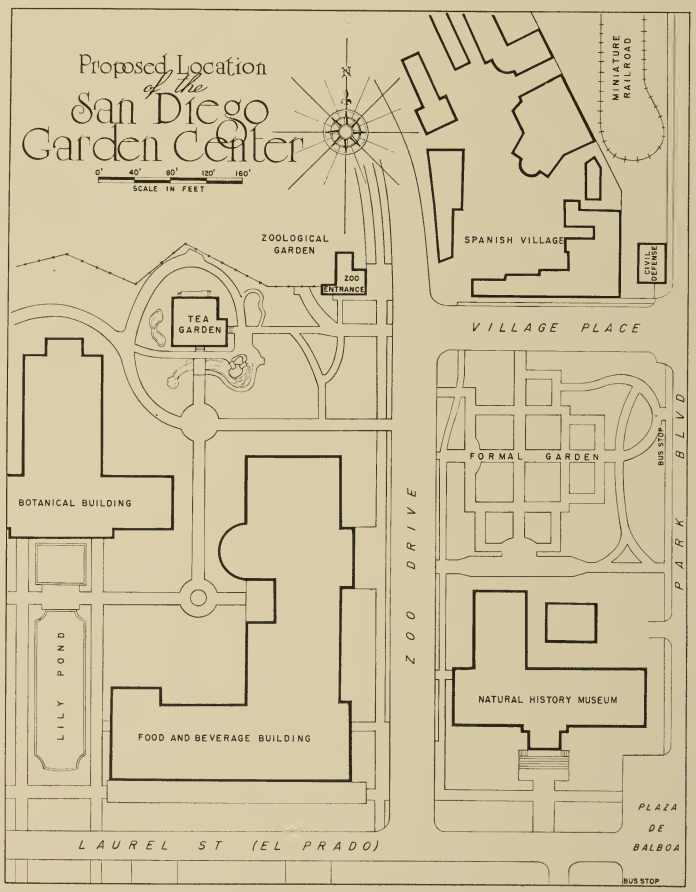
The location that we have chosen is the site of the Tea Pavilion and its beautiful garden south of the Zoo entrance. The old building, attractive as it still seems, is doomed. The area taken up by it would be large enough for an auditorium, with kitchen and library wings.

Our area would include the Botanical Building, which, when rebuilt, would be something quite gorgeous as part of our center. Behind this building, beside the back road to the Fine Arts Gallery there is room for sheds, work shops and trial plantings. We are near a large building for show purposes; across the way is the Natural History Museum with its splendid Botany Department, and across the road is the Spanish Village Art Center.

Naturally the projects of our Affiliates become the projects of us all. In that we are a real Association. There is the already started and most beautiful Camellia Garden. The Rose Society's Rose Garden is as yet but a colored map in the Park Administration office, and part of our project will be to see it placed some day in Balboa Park. The testing grounds wanted by the Dahlia Society is a very legitimate part of a Garden Center project.

Almost two years to the day that we moved back into the Floral Building and became again one of the seven cultural institutions in the park, clubs and floral societies have joined in the planning for this Garden Center. It is something to know that now we may dream our dreams for something of benefit to our City, as some day if we all work together the dreams may become real.

Just one more thing. No, we are not as humble as the City of Sacramento. Our aim is not to be a one-flower city, but The Floral City of the Pacific.



Simultaneously with an article from the University of California College of Agriculture on orchid diseases, addressed to the Editor of California Garden, came a book, distributed by the Horticultural Book Service, 200 Detroit Avenue, Concord, California, for review purposes. It proved to be the antidote for the rather disheartening article from the College of Agriculture.

Orchid Culture

Boyd E. Thompson

I have talked with Boyd E. Thompson about the little book entitled "Popular Orchid Growing," (American Edition), by Sanders Royal Orchid Growers, St. Albans, Herts., England, sent to us for review purposes by The Horticultural Book Service, 200 Detroit Avenue, Concord, California. Mr. Thompson owns the English edition under the title "Orchids and Their Cultivation."

We all know of Sanders' reputation and that anything put out by them would be authoritative. The Editor, who knows nothing about orchid growing, finds this book enticing reading, even if she never does grow an orchid. The illustrations are beautiful and the little remarks at the bottom of some of the pages apeal to this amateur at floriculture. I would like to quote such things as at the bottom of page 4, "Popular Fallacy No. 1—Orchids are an expensive luxury!" "Popular Fallacy No. 2," on page 6, "Orchids are difficult to grow." Again, "Popular Fallacy No. 3," on page 7, "Orchids are fragile." "Popular Fallacy No. 4," on page 72, at the end of the book, "Orchids require tropical culture." This little book has been prepared because of repeated demands for a "handy" book on orchid culture. The only part that might be misleading to growers of orchids in our part of the world is that the temperatures and proportions of light are gauged in relation to the English climate and more northerly positions of the globe. Mr. Thompson feels that the Tables of Species are the most valuable part of the book and he refers to them often and recommends them to those raising orchids seriously.—D. C. A.

The College of Agriculture of the University of California has recently published information on the control of fungus and bacterial diseases of orchids which is boxed on this page. The article is somewhat misleading in that it implies such diseases are quite prevalent among greenhouse grown orchids. Descriptions of the particular diseases, for which treatment is prescribed, is not given in sufficient detail that they may be easily recognized.

Actually, diseases in orchids occur infrequently in serious form, and when they are present it is inevitably the result of poor culture. A cold, damp atmosphere around orchids is conducive to bacterial rot. Wet rots are usually caused by cold water dropping from the panes onto the plants. Good orchid culture calls for watering and syringing early enough in the day to allow plants to dry off before night. Thus, when temperatures are lower and humidity is high, the plant offers dry surfaces to the potential enemy—infection.

The right amount of light within the day-night range, humidity, coupled with good air circulation, water to suit the needs of the particular plants, and root aeriation contribute to environmental conditions needed to maintain healthy plants.

Sanitation is extremely important in the greenhouse. Plant debris which is allowed to accumulate on or under the benches may spread disease by splashing water or by insects. Diseased parts of plants which have been cut off should be removed and burned immediately.

Where conditions prevail that encourage fungus and bacterial diseases, prompt measures are necessary if such diseases are to be controlled and eliminated. In addition to isolation of affected plants with treatment by fungicides and surgery, the cultural conditions need to be revised. A proper balance of heat, light and moisture is necessary for healthy orchid plants. If any of the three factors is out of balance, trouble is almost sure to result. A preventative policy is usually least costly in the long run.

Greenhouse growers of orchids have serious plant disease problems which virtually do not exist in the natural tropical habitat of the popular ornamental plant.

Under natural conditions in the tropics orchids are not attacked by bacterial diseases and are only mildly attacked by fungus and virus diseases, with no serious losses resulting.

Changes in climatic and nutritional environment, such as prevail in greenhouses, tend to upset the natural equilibrium of the plants and increase their susceptibility to certain diseases caused by fungi, viruses and bacteria.

Controls for the most important diseases have been recommended by Peter A. Ark, associate professor of plant pathology, University of California College of Agriculture, as follows:

Pythium Black Rot—Fungus disease of seedlings and full-grown Cattleya orchids; favored by high humidity, over-watering, and temperatures above 65°F; starts as small spot and spreads fast into the growing point, causing death of plant. Control: In seedling phase drench pots with copper sulphate solution, 1:100,000, and may repeat once a week; or drench plants in 8-quinolinol benzoate, sulfate, or natriphene, 1:2000; separate diseased full-grown plants from healthy ones and dry thoroughly and thereafter water carefully; destroy advanced cases.

Brown Spot—Bacterial disease of Phalaenopsis and Cattleya orchids; can be fatal to all ages of the former but seldom kills Cattleyas. Control: Use 8-quinolinol benzoate or natriphene, 1:2000; in Cattleyas spots may be swabbed with corrosive sublimate, 1:1000, and may repeat in a week.

Soft Rot — Rare bacterial disease of Cattleya; attacks are sudden and devastating. Control: Burn all affected plants and disinfect room thoroughly and promptly.

Brown Rot—Bacterial disease of Cypripedium orchids. prefers temperature of 65°F or more and humidity of 70% or more. To save diseased plants use same treatment as for Brown Spot.

Bacterial Leaf Scorch and Pseudobulb Rot—Bacterial disease of Miltonia orchid hybrids; most severe under cool and moist conditions favorable for Miltonia growth. Control is the same as for Brown Spot; strict sanitation is necessary; operators should disinfect their hands after handling diseased plants.

Black Spot—Fungus disease which infects Vanda orchids before they are cut and shipped, but usually does not show up until during or after shipment. Prevent disease by spraying with 8-quinolinol benzoate, 1:2000.

In one of a series on outstanding local horticulturists,

Meet Ethel Baily Higgins

Botanical students who frequent the third floor of the San Diego Natural History Museum in Balboa Park are accustomed to the brisk little lady who, as Curator of Botany, helps them find references among the valuable books of the Museum Library or compare field specimens with those of the splendid Herbarium. For 18 years, 10 of them under her predecessor Frank Gander, Ethel Bailey Higgins has functioned so quietly and efficiently that we take her for granted.

Ethel Bailey was born in 1866, in the small town of Vassalboro, Maine. Her Quaker father had been read out of his church for marrying her Presbyterian mother. Her great-great-grandfather was the first to make oilcloth in this country in the days when it was dried in the fields. Wages were 12 dollars a week at that time and thread was 20 cents a spool. Educated in a Quaker boarding school and a Methodist Seminary and "Female College," Ethel Bailey taught high school in Massachusetts for two years, later moving to California with her family in 1900.

When Hollywood was just a sleepy suburb of Los Angeles, Mr. Bailey brought in the only artesian well in his vicinity. With what his daughter described as "10 green fingers," he developed a beautiful garden on his three-quarter acre of land. Water being as priceless than as now, he later sold his property to Arthur Letts and retired to Alhambra.

During her Hollywood residence, Miss Bailey became an enthusiastic camera fan. She perfected a set of 250 hand-colored photographs of native flowers which were so good that they were purchased by the California State Library and many others. Enlargements of these plates were exhibited in the San Diego Exposition of 1914-15, as well as at the last Chicago Exposition. Picturing the wild flowers led to an extensive and meticulous botanical study which has carried the erstwhile photographer to top place among experts on native botany of Southern California.

In Alhambra, Miss Bailey met John C. Higgins whom she married in 1914. The next year they moved to San Diego where she assisted him in a successful business enterprise. The 1931 depression closed their establishment. Her husband died and left Mrs. Higgins a widow at the age of 67. Undaunted, she wrote and illustrated a fine book on "Our Native Cacti" which was published by A. T. De La Mare Co. of New York.

Mrs. Higgins became a member of the staff of the San Diego Natural History Museum in 1933. Working under Frank Gander until his retirement in 1943, and for the last three years as Curator in her own right, she has helped to build the Herbarium from a few thousand to the creditable size of 45,000 specimens, has backed all the extensive activities of her department and has found time for personal participation in field trips. She has contributed to many magazines, including California Garden.

An annotated distributional list of "Ferns and Flowering Plants of San Diego County" was compiled by Mrs. Higgins in 1949 for the "Occasional Papers" of the San Diego Society of Natural History. Illustrated with some nice line drawings, "Chapparel of San Diego County," second of a series of "Trials" pamphlets, is just off the press. "Pines and Palms of Balboa Park" was the first.

The stimulating botanist is not only a tireless assistant to students, young and old, but such an example of perseverance that fellow workers are ashamed to complain or give up a difficult assignment. Utterly fearless, on outdoor expeditions she pursues her particular mission with the same dispatch as the men of the group. After an unpleasant but amusing experience with a barbed wire fence she wears slacks on these occasions. Her twinkling brown eyes and quick energetic steps belie the fact that she will celebrate her 85th birthday this August.

Her recipe for a vital interest in living is "to have a lively curiosity and a sense of humor." Those who feel abused and shunted aside in middle age should be inspired by frank, indomitable, ever-young Ethel Bailey Higgins, who turned a hobby into a profession, and a depression into an octogenarian's triumph.—A. M. C.

Summing up their activities of the past year,

The Affiliates Reports

SAN DIEGO BRANCH OF AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY.

Local branch of the A. B. S. was founded August 19, 1941 by Mrs. Claude E. Woods, Mrs. Clarence E. Moore and Mrs. Russell T. Bailey.

Purposes of this organization are educational, scientific and to stimulate interest in begonias and other shade loving plants.

Regular monthly meetings are held the fourth Monday of every month in the Hard of Hearing Hall, on Herbert St. just south of University Ave. Meeting convenes at 8 p. m. with a speaker, plant sale and refreshments. Visitors are always welcome.

Officers for 1951 are: Roland C. Wilson, president; J. W. Phillips, vice-president; Mrs. Russell T. Bailey, treasurer; Mrs. Thomas Hofmann, secretary.

Plans for a show in August will be announced later.

—Roland C. Wilson.

CONVAIR GARDEN CLUB

The past year has been an active one for Convair Garden Club.

A flower and vegetable show was held in July, 1950, at which six gold cups were awarded to winners in the flower division, eight plaques were given in the fruit and vegetable division, and a gold trophy awarded in the children's group.

1004 visitors attended the camellia show on Feb. 4, at which six cups were awarded the winners.

The rose show April 22 saw 14 cups awarded the winners, three additional trophies given for potted plants and flower arrangements, and a junior trophy for the children's division. 1082 attended this show.

Future Convair Garden Club shows include the gladiolus show June 4, flower, fruit and vegetable show July 22, dahlia show Aug. 19, and chrysanthemum show Nov. 4.—Eugene L. Zimmerman, President.

RETAIL FLORISTS ASSOCIATION

Activities of the Retail Florists Association in the past year—

Association's first Flower and Fashion Show Mar. 12, 1950. With a good representation at the Santa Barbara Convention, we placed a display in their show. Our association took several spaces for display at the County Fair.

We helped start the Growers Market. A display of roses was placed in a window of Marston's. All worked together in displaying at the La Mesa Flower Show. Also, everyone who could in the association sent bowls of chrysanthemums to the chrysanthemum show.

Long hours were spent on decorations for Florence Chadwick's official civic homecoming. All members participated in the Polio Drive.

Last project to date was the Second Flower and Fashion Show in Balboa Park April 22, 1951.

—Fred Jones, president.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY, INC.

Activities of the past year include the monthly meetings which featured orchids throughout the year as grown locally. Speakers included growers from other areas as well as members of the Society. The annual show held in Balboa Park is the focal point of the season where many genera of orchids are displayed for competition and for effect.

The American Orchid Society made two awards and the Cymbidium Society, Inc. awarded a bronze medal, while the handsome silver trophies of the Society were eagerly sought after.

New officers will assume their responsibilities at the annual meeting in June. Anyone interested in orchid growing is cordially invited to attend meetings in Floral Building the first Tuesday of the month. —Clarisse M. Carlton.

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY

San Diego Rose Society was founded in 1927 by Forrest L. Hicatt of San Diego. Its charter membership included about 100 members and has maintained approximately that attendance through the years.

From its inception, the society has worked for a Municipal Rose Garden in Balboa Park and has succeeded in having a site set aside and a plan drawn.

During the Exposition of 1935-36 the Society sponsored a National Rose Show. Roses were sent by mail from all parts of the United States. It was co-sponsored by Edsel Ford and the American Rose Society.

The Society holds its annual two-day Spring Rose Show in Balboa Park to foster and encourage growing of roses. The shows are well-attended, showing the interest inspired by one of the best-loved flowers.—Mrs. J. C. Watson.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY

Organized in 1937, the local society has from the beginning been affiliated with the American Dahlia Society. For the past several years it has maintained about 50 active members. Six regular

meetings are held a year, on the fourth Tuesday of each odd-numbered month.

Purposes of the Society are simple: to help the dahlia fanciers of our community grow finer flowers and to encourage them to exhibit their blooms in our shows each fall.

The 1951 show is scheduled for Aug. 4 and 5 in Recital Hall, Balboa Park. The quality of blooms and displays exhibited in our annual shows are not to be excelled anywhere in the country. These exhibits include the finest in European and Australian introductions, as well as those developed in American gardens.

Each year the local group sponsors a specimen bloom show open only to members. Each member may enter not more than 15 blooms, one in each color class. Ribbons are awarded to first and second place winners and trophies are given for the best flower and for sweepstakes.

Southern California is ideal for growing dahlia seed, and members of the Society have developed many new seedling varieties which have won national prominence, such as Miss San Diego, Five Star General, and two 1951 introductions, Princess Dianne and Hazel Harper.

Dahlia growers along the West Coast are in need of a trial grounds for their new seedling varieties, and the San Diego County Dahlia Society is considering plans that may bring such a garden to this county.

Membership dues are two dollars a year. Anyone wishing to join should contact George C. Kern, secretary, at 4742 Lenore Dr., San Diego 15.

—Carroll N. Anderson.

SAN DIEGO FUCHSIA SOCIETY

Meeting in the garden of Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Lee, 16 friends interested in fuchsia growing and culture decided that a Fuchsia Society would be desirable for promoting their hobby.

Charter officers were elected at a meeting in Aug., 1945, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Follen. By the third meeting in Sept., 1945, Carl Mueller, then president of the National Fuchsia Society, attended, granted the charter, and installed the officers. There were 29 charter members.

Meetings, originally held in members' homes, are now held in various club rooms due to the expansion of the membership. July August and September meetings are held in Fuchsia Gardens with pot luck suppers. A Christmas party closes the year.

—Floy A. Moore, secretary.

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

San Diego Camellia Society closed its sixth and most successful year on May 11 with the annual dinner at Valle's.

Dr. Reuben W. Tellam and officers opened the season Nov. 10 when Frank Williams presented his famous camellia kodachrome slides.

Mrs. C. Scott Campbell, program chairman, arranged a series of interesting programs. Mildred Bryant Brooks, authority on the art of flower arrangement, was featured at the December meeting. In January the Society took a camellia tour around the world with Ralph S. Peer, of Los Angeles, via his vivid powers of description. The February workshop meeting with refreshments proved popular. New and old members profited from information given by our own experts, L. H. Boyle and E. W. Miller, in March. The April meeting was a question and answer session with Victor J. Wagoner presiding over a panel of experts.

The fourth all-camellia show sponsored by the San Diego Camellia Society was held in Conference Hall, Balboa Park, Feb. 24 and 25. The theme, "Camellias—Our Colonial Heritage," enabled Mrs. A. P. Carlton, show chairman, and her committee members to stage a beautiful show.

Balboa Park Camellia Gardens continued to increase when 97 new plants brought the total plantings to 586.

Officers for the 1951-52 season will be: Dr. Reuben W. Tellam, president; Capt. F. E. Vensel Jr., vice-president; Mrs. W. E. Peyton, secretary; V. E. Stark, treasurer. Directors will include Mrs. Fred Hebert, Mrs. L. L. Carringer and L. H. Boyle.

Meetings are held the second Friday of the month during the blooming season in the Floral Association Building, Balboa Park.

—Lucien C. Atherton, publicity chairman.

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

The San Diego Chapter of the California Association of Nurserymen is an organization that endeavors to promote better nursery stock and better service to their many customers by handling only the best stock and material, and having sales help that are qualified to help with the many gardening problems. By their guidance you will have better and more enjoyable gardens. Gardening is the most fascinating hobby of all.

Sponsoring Garden contests and flower shows are but one of many functions your nursery association performs.

Look for the association sign. It means your favorite Nurseryman is a member of the California Association of Nurserymen.

—Al Harutunain, secretary-treasurer.

Marion and Henry delve into the roots of oranges, while our mouths water. Did you know that oranges originated in India?

Leaves from the Observer's Notebook

SUMMER REVERIES

Marion Almy Lippitt

Henry and I were sitting in the garden enjoying a summer afternoon's siesta. He lay in one of those preposterous looking tubular chrome affairs, which elevates your feet almost to the level of your head. Henry saluated his glass of orange juice by holding it up to the sunlight, sniffing it, and finally by drinking just enough to let him lick his lips catlike and glance over at me with his sixty-four dollar smile.

"And what did the orange juice say to you?" I asked, fascinated by the ritual I had witnessed.

"It spoke to me of days overseas in the broiling sun when I would bargain with the Good Lord," he replied. "I'd say, 'Mr. Big, I'll stand watch for you here if when the job is finished you'll drop me off at the ranch's orange grove—third row, fourth tree, south side. I want to pick a California summer Valencia orange off the tree and eat it then and there.'" Henry clinked his glass on the wroughtiron table beside him like a period to his sentence.

"Where did oranges come from originally?" I asked, expecting the answer to be Spain.

Henry, as usual, had his accurate facts in battle array and he replied, "Oranges came from India, via Asia to Europe. There are wild oranges in the hills of India today."

I stretched out in the swing where I had been sitting reading. "And oranges reached Southern California with the Spanish padres?" I questioned.

"You're so right, and they were sorry sour, seedy specimens," answered Henry, continuing to relish his orange juice. "The man who isn't receiving his due is the man who introduced seedless oranges into California.

"A New Englander, I suppose," was my contributing bait for a story.

"What does Luther Calvin Tebbetts sound like?" questioned Henry, looking unduly smug.

"Tebbetts, Tebbetts," I repeated to myself, "it sounds like the state of Maine."

"South Berwick, Maine, lost Luther Calvin Tebbetts to California. In March, 1874, onto his ranch near Riverside, came three small orange trees sent Tebbetts by his friend in the Agricultural Department in Washington." Henry swung his legs over the side of his chair and sat up as if to do the subject justice. "The Agricultural Department had received them from a woman in Bahia, Brazil." Henry picked up three garden markers from the pile on the table and carefully stuck them into the ground as he said, "These three trees Luther Calvin Tebbetts planted."

"Did he plant them so close together?" I asked guilelessly.

Henry looked at me with that patient, pained expression that parents reserve for the inquiring child who should know the answer.

"The diagram is figurative, not factual," he replied, removing one of the markers as he said: "In spite of the fences Mr. Tebbetts built around each tree a cow came along and demolished one of the orphaned trees from Bahia, Brazil. The two that remained Tebbetts defensed and padlocked beyond demolition. Here Henry illustrated figuratively the process, I suppose, by piling the long pine needles from the Pinus canariensis about the markers.

"For four years Tebbetts kept the trees from fruiting and took the ribbing of his friends about his fantastic experiment of seedless oranges. On the fourth year he allowed each orange tree to bear one orange. The Tebbetts then gave a party serving each guest a slice of orange. The guests watched the slicing. The oranges were seedless!"

As if to add emphasis to Henry's remarks we heard the telephone ring and a child's voice shouted "Father. Telephone!"

"Who is it?" called Henry, but the informant was already far beyond earshot.

"Drat those infants! When will they learn to always get the name?" said Henry, pushing himself out of his chair.

I caught him by the hand. "Wait, and listen to this as a benediction," I pleaded, waving in front of him Reginald Arkell's "Old Herbaceous". I opened the book and read:

"The pageant of summer! Almost too much of a good thing! Blossom flowed along the borders in great waves, and was gone. If only the thing would stop for half a minute and let you look at it. But no, it came and went; came and went; came and went, until there was nothing left but the Michaelmas daises."

Henry listened attentatively and remarked over his shoulder as he went off toward the house,

"Tebbetts refused $10,000 a piece for his trees!"

I could not resist calling after him "One track mind!"

A large blank wall that needs decorative treatment? Eriobotrya japonica may be just the answer, or you may prefer Ulmus parvifolia!

Planting for Walls and Fences

Jane A. Minshall

Many of us who have patios or backyards with enclosing walls or fences are faced with the problem of what to plant that will look well against a particular type of construction. Limited space is often another factor in determining the choice of plants. What is more decorative against a wall or fence than a perfectly espaliered tree or shrub! Very few of us have the time or patience to master the are of espaliering, but for those who do, it can be a fascinating hobby. Fortunately for the rest of us, there are many trees and shrubs that lend themselves to both formal and informal training. Also, there are plants that have a naturally upright, rather than spreading, way of growing, and vines that will soften a severe wall or form an interesting pattern.

That large blank wall need not be a problem. Podocarpus elongata (fern pine) may be used very effectively against a wall in either full sun or part shade. Its supple branches can be easily trained, and the podocarpus is remarkably pest free. In addition, when the plant is mature, the foliage will endure rigorous conditions, including high winds and salt air. Various types of citrus may be formally espaliered or informally trained against a wall. A decorative and productive choice for a warm, sheltered wall is a Valencia orange tree. The rich green foliage forms a handsome background for the orange fruit and fragrant blossoms, and with simple pruning the branches will take up little outward space from the wall. Another fruit tree that is particularly striking against a large wall is Eriobotrya japonica (loquat), which can be treated formally or informally. Its bold, leathery 6-to-8 inch leaves are particularly interesting against light stucco or wood. Also, the leaves are among the most valuable of all foliage plants for indoor decoration, being especially striking in a room with wood paneling. Ulmus parvifolia (Chinese elm), generally planted as a shade tree, can be used to fill up a large wall space and may be trained very flat. Its small shiny leaves are beautiful against a light back-ground. Very effective against large walls is Magnolia grandiflora (Southern magnolia), another valuable plant for indoor decoration. A luxurious effect is created by the rich, heavy foliage, huge waxy white fragrant blooms and ornamental seed pods. As the magnolia eventually becomes a large tree, training it against a wall is the best way to grow it if the garden is small. With proper training some of the more slender vines are especially desirable on large expanses of light walls in bright sunshine where they will create an interesting pattern of light and shadow. Wisteria floribunda (Japanese wisteria), a deciduous vine, will ultimately stand alone if hard pruned. The flower cluster, long racemes of white, pale pink or lavender, appear after the leaves and are both showy and fragrant. Among the evergreen vines Gelsemium sempervirens (Carolina jessamine) is particularly good because its sparse foliage forms a tracery without concealing architectural lines. The golden trumpet-shaped flowers appear as early as January and last into April. Carolina jessamine thrives in part shade as well as in sun.

A white or light colored wall provides the most effective background for a plant whose growth structure forms an interesting silhouette. The small, glittering dark green leaves of Azara microphylla (aromo) appear stenciled against a light background. The azara grows about 10 feet high and is exceedingly graceful, flattening up against a wall with very little pruning. The minute yellow flowers which appear in late winter are chocolate scented. Azara requires partial shade and will tolerate dense shade. Another shade loving shrub which is attractive against white walls is Cocculus laurifolius. The prominently veined, long, dark green leaves are closely strung on gracefully arching branches. Cocculus is hardy, nearly pest-free, and the foliage is useful for indoor decoration. The branches and leaves of Hymenosporum flavum (sweetshade) form an interesting pattern against a light wall. This flowering tree has a graceful, slender habit and in May is covered with delightfully fragrant yellow flowers. Sweetshade should be planted in a sheltered spot in a patio where the fragrance of its flowers may be enjoyed. Nandina domestica (Sacred Bamboo), while not lending itself to espaliering, has an erect habit of growth accenting vertical lines and requires little space. The white flower heads of summer become clusters of bright red berries in winter, and the foliage is refined.

Plant material and redwood, be it house wall or grape stake fence, make a pleasing combination. Pyracantha Duvalli and P. Graberi (firethorns) can be espaliered or trained informally against a grape stake fence, and the warm brown tones of the wood combine beautifully with the showy red berries. Equally striking against a wood

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background is Pyrus kawakami (evergreen pear) with its shiny, rich green leaves. Evergreen pear is another plant that makes a fine formal espalier, but is also very effective when kept flat against a fence or wall by simple pruning. It begins to bloom in January and by early spring is covered with white pear blossoms. The bronze and rose coloring in the new leaves of Photinia serrulata (Chinese photinia) blend well with redwood. This photinia, a relative of our native toyon, has large, dark green, glossy foliage with occasional bright red leaves, and handsome white flower clusters. It appreciates a little shade this far south. Although Chinese photinia is often seen as a large, rather spreading shrub, it can be trained quite flat. Hibiscus rosa sinensis provides colorful flowers through the summer and fall. Some varieties are easily trained and look especially well against wood. Agnes Gault, a large single pink and sea shell, a smaller flowered pink, are both popular for this purpose. The hibiscus is sun loving but also requires humidity. A white stucco wall is probably the least desirable background as the wall absorbs the moisture from the air. The wood wall or fence, on the other hand, provides warmth and protection without the drying effect.

Plants with rich green foliage, such as citrus, evergreen pear and magnolia, look well against a brick wall. Nandina domestica is also striking with brick construction as the coppery red foliage coloring of spring and winter repeats the tones of the brick. A line of nandinas against a brick wall is a lovely sight.

Grewia caffra is a fast growing, easily controlled shrub for a warm wall. It has shiny, linden-like leaves, and lavender, yellow centered flowers like small asters that appear intermittently throughout the year. Grewia is a choice shrub that should be planted more often. The Meyer lemon, another plant for a warm location, will grow in a restricted space and is one of the best citruses for espaliering. Its attractive flowers, fruit and rich green foliage make it especially decorative. Xylosma senticosa (shiny xylosma), a versatile shrub, enjoys lots of heat but may also be grown in part shade. One of the most beautiful foliage shrubs, Xylosma has shiny bright green leaves with coppery new growth. It can be easily trained to walls or fences.

For walls with a cool, part shade exposure, varieties of Camellia japonica can be espaliered, Camellia Chandleri elegans being one of the most satisfactory. Camellia sasanqua, more of a vining type than the japonica, is easily trained and is much used as an espalier. Various fuchsia varieties can also be trained to grow flat without too much coaxing.

Even in the small garden there is usually a spot for a fruit tree or even for a magnolia if walls are utilized. It we make the most of the solid backgrounds provided by wood and masonry, our gardens will be more decorative and interesting.

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New Books

ADA MCLOUTH

FARMING AND GARDENING IN THE BIBLE, by Alastair MacKay. Emmaus, Penna, Rodale Press. $3.00. 1950.

Farming and gardening in the Bible is covered here under large general subjects: gardens, herbs, fruit and nut trees, the vine, flowers, animal husbandry. A chapter is devoted to weeds which we are told were of the thorny, or bramble sort.

The book is based for the most part on well-known Bible reference books, and on the author's wide reading on the subject and his great interest in nature. Wherever one opens the book interesting facts present themselves and it will perhaps appeal more as an idle hour companion than for consecutive reading.

It appears to have been primarily a labor of love and the inquiring mind. The author draws parallels between modern and ancient methods in the regulation of agriculture and taxation through the collection of tithes.

There is an excellent index.

THE LORETTE SYSTEM OF PRUNING, by Louis Lorette. 2d Edition. Emmaus, Penna., Rodale Press. $3.00.

First published in France in 1925, translated into German, and Spanish and Italian, as well as English, this is the first American edition of an original work on a system of pruning fruit trees to increase production.

Though of particular interest to the commercial grower the theories can be studied and applied by any one who likes to experiment with growing things, especially the espalier method.

On its book jacket the publisher warns its readers to disregard the author's recommendations of artificial fertilizers. Since this is a Rodale publication, 'nuff said.

BETTER HOMES and GARDENS GARDEN BOOK. Des Moines, Iowa, Meredith Publishing Co. $3.95. 1951.

This loose-leaf book with its gay washable cover is pleasant to handle and practical to use.

Divided into twenty sections including index, the essentials of common garden problems are covered. Illustrations include photographs, many in color, and drawings suitable to the subject.

The section of Garden Reminders gives suggestions for each month, for each of five regions, of which California is one by itself.

This book will certainly be widely used. We see ourself turning its pages under a reading lamp. We know we shall carry it outside and consult its spray conversion tables frequently.

OLD HERBACEOUS, by Reginald Arkell. New York, Harcourt, Brace and Co. $2.00. 1951.

Seldom does a novel or novelette on garden themes break the best seller lists as "Old Herbaceous" is about to do. Only at long intervals does such a charming, simple story appear, and with an almost universal appeal, and a very special attraction for the garden lover.

To one who watches the seasons and the days pass over a garden, no life seems long enough. Bert Pinnegar's eighty years carried him through the hard apprenticeship of a foundling boy in the '80's, the triumphs of early strawberries for the Manor's table, and distinctions won at flower shows.

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THE JOY OF FLOWER ARRANGING, by Helen Van Pelt Wilson. New York, M. Barrows and Co., Inc. $3.95. 1951.

Of books on this absorbing subject there is no end . The novel feature of this one is that each chapter covers the work of one specialist, one month, one locality. Chapter one is "January in California" and shows the work of Mrs. Carrick of the Los Angeles Garden Club. Chapter twelve is "December in Massachusetts."

The book is distinguished in design. The 108 photographs, of which two are in color, are beautiful, the subjects challenging, and there is sufficient variety in materials and mood.

Arrangements shown are chiefly for the home, to be lived with; for the church, to be regarded as a part of worship.

"GARDEN BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH"

National Council Books, Inc., offers book service for National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc., and features one selected each month. The selection for April was:

NATURE'S WAYS: HOW NATURE TAKES CARE OF ITS OWN. By Roy Chapman Andrews. $3.75.

There are 144 illustrations of which 72 are full-color plates. The beauty of the reproductions of Andre Durenceau's paintings make this a valuable art book as well as a fascinating treatment of the subject, how nature's creatures adapt themselves for survival.

The National Council solicits book orders for its special selections and all other books from garden club members. The new magazine "Popular Gardening," may also be ordered from the Council.

Address: National Council Books, Inc., Box 4298, Phila. 44, Pa.

In response to Charles Gilbert's "Hydroponics—Modern Magic" in the Spring issue of California Garden, your editor received the following communication on what is being done among soil-less growers in Miami, Fla.

Hydroponics in Miami

Dick Brite

Commercial hydroponics, now six years old, has reached a stage in Miami where it is ready to go into its third phase, large-scale operations.

Many bugs have been ironed out. While studies and discoveries in the mysteries of plant life and growth are continuing basic conclusions have been reached promising much for the future. This is the first phase.

The second phase was development, also in Miami, of home hydroponic beds. This is serving to add wider interest and to pave the way for a greater desire by consumers for mineralized foods, claimed to be of greater nutritional value.

On the basis of six years of operations, those in the business maintain results prove that hydroponics might be the solution to food problems which for centuries have been plaguing starving millions in India and China and over-populated islands like Britain and Japan.

Some progress along these lines already has been scored. The United States Army in Japan maintains an 80-acre hydroponic farm. Operations have been started in England, and interest is described there as mounting. While these developments are far too small to make any dent in the world's serious food problem, they at least point to a beginning.

On the basis of the last six years, adherents claim that successful hydroponic operations need not be retarded by climate, terrain or amount of sunshine. Experiments now are under way in Alaska. Vegetables even have been hydroponic-grown in a home in mid-winter, and in caves or basements with the aid of fluorescent lighting.

Agricultural authorities in Miami say there is no reason why extensive hydroponic farming cannot find steady markets. They say there is no reason why greenhouses cannot be used the year-round to supply mineralized and vitamin-filled crops in immediate areas. They even predict that a building in the heart of a metropolitan center might be used to produce high-value crops which grow 30 to 50 per cent faster almost on a belt line somewhat similar to the raising of poultry.

But to date all hydroponic operations have been relatively small. Two factors appear to be responsible: Lack of considerable capital in the hands of operators presently engaged in hydroponic gardening, and hesitancy to accept new methods.

The theory of hydroponics and efforts to develop the process is old. First recorded experiments in 1699 are credited to an English scientist named Woodward. In 1851-1855, a French chemist, Boussingault, confirmed theories of another Frenchman, DeSaussure, set forth in 1804.

Early researchers proved that plants are made up of certain minerals fed in a water solution. From this conclusion, it developed that these minerals must be supplied in proportion to provide for normal growth of crops rich in nutritional qualities.

It was the Army which started the program during World War II. The problem was to find some

method to supply food to large concentrations of troops on isolated and unproductive Pacific atolls. Experiments were carried on out-of-doors in Miami's mild year-around climate. Before the Japanese surrender, some troops were fed hydroponic-grown vegetables.

Meanwhile, the Army encouraged commercial development to speed research. Three operators were trained and received technical aid in constructing laboratories in Miami. Of the original group, only Arthur Deatrick, owner of Flagler Hydroponic, still is in business. He in turn has assisted and taught the 10 or so others now in the Miami area under endorsement of the Florida and United States departments of agriculture.

Like all the others, Deatrick started on a shoestring. His quarter-of-an acre operation cost $22,000 to build. He was able to pay off the initial outlay in three years, and profits continue high. Last summer when the price of field-grown tomatoes fell to 10 cents a pound, hydroponic farmers could not supply enough at 35 cents. Yet when northern wholesalers offered him $15 a bushel, he was unable to ship a minimum requirement of 50 bushels daily.

Despite such bright prospects, Deatrick, past 50, feels he must not embark on an extensive expansion program without considerable capital. Hydroponics needs but one-fiftieth of the space of soil farming. But at the same time it costs more per acre to build hydroponic beds than to prepare the ground for cultivation.

Meanwhile, until someone breaks the ice with an operation large enough to be effective, commercial hydroponic growers in Miami continue to gather increasing and wider-spread interest in the industry.

Stigmaphyllon

Alfred C. Hottes

Stim-ma-fil' on. From *stigma* and *leaf,* refers to the fact that there is a leafy appendage at the tip of the stigma. Family Malpighiaceae, related to Malpighia.

The Fringed Amazonvine, *Stigmaphyllon ciliatum,* comes from St. Thomas and Brazil. It is a slender, twining climber, growing to a height of 10 to 15 feet. The golden yellow flowers remind one of Oncidium Orchids. The flowers are produced in 3-to 6-flowered umbels and are in blom during most of the warm months of the year. The leaves are heart-shaped, bronzy when young, and the margins of the leaves are ciliate (they have long hair-like teeth).

The Argentine Amazonvine, *Stigmaphyllon littorale,* is a stronger grower, has larger leaves and smaller flowers in larger clusters than *Stigmaphyllon ciliatum,* and the margins of the leaves are *not* ciliate. The lower side of the leaves are pubescent. The roots are tuberous.

Stigmaphyllon periplocaefolium was introduced by the Bureau of Plant Industry. It has long narrow leaves, which are deep green and bears much more bloom than *S. ciliatum.*

Uses and Culture. This seems to be an excellent dainty climber for sunny places which are sheltered from the wind. The beauty of the large flowers of the *S. ciliatum* makes up for the lack of profusion found in *S. litorale.*

References. Bailey's "Hortus" Hoyt, Evans, Taylor, Nehrling.

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Your Garden

ROBERT H. CALVIN

JUNE—

Gardeners must meet the challenge of dwindling water supplies. Before the summer is over we may have water rationing. The gardener who understands irrigation conserves water. A frivolous flirting of the hose indulged in by amateurs wastes more water than any other gardening practice. Watering in basins around trees, shrubs and flower beds is the most practical. The quantity of water must be adequate for deep penetration. Secret of garden irrigation is to apply as much water as the soil will hold without actual saturation, at intervals long enough to prevent drying out. Answer to water conservation is to return humus to the soil in the form of compost, thus building soil capable of holding moisture longer and cutting water use in half. Let your lawn clippings go back into the lawn. A deep soaking once a week is better than daily sprinklings. If you fed your lawn Mar. 1, feed again at the rate of 2 lbs. per 100 sq. ft. Milorganite is better fertilizer for lawn and garden, being organic instead of chemical. Keep spent bloom removed from plants. Keep down weeds—they rob the shrubs and flowers of moisture. Pinch back chrysanthemums for bushy growth or remove surplus suckers to concentrate growth to one vigorous shoot for exhibition. De-bud roses and dahlias for larger blooms, i.e., remove side flower buds, leaving the center bud. Train new growth of vines to prevent rampant growth. You can start wisteria by latering. (Consult Sunset's Visual Garden Guide for how-to-do-it pictures.) Chrysanthemum cuttings can still be started for later fall bloom. Start these flower seed in flats: canterbury bells, carnations, columbine, delphinium, foxglove, gerbera, penstemon and sweet william. Continue planting dahlias for later bloom. Keep spraying and dusting programs going. An all-purpose dust or spray is more practical if plants are susceptible to fungus diseases as well as pest. All vegetables, especially corn, beans, cucumbers and squash may be started now.

JULY—

Most of the gardener's time will be spent in maintenance this month. Staking, feeding and keeping a constant supply of moisture is necessary for success with fall-blooming flowers. A thick mulch around roses as well as a last feeding for the summer will keep them growing for fall bloom. Those who specialize in roses have found that it is not necessary to give them a rest during the summer. Keep them growing rather than forcing them to rest. In removing spent bloom, cut the stem as though you were cutting for arrangement in the house. If your rose bushes have dead stubs where previously cut, you are cutting too high above a dormant growth bud . . . Tuberous begonias should be at their peak now. All potted tuberous begonias benefit from a feeding of liquid fertilizer every two weeks during their blooming season. Avoid high nitrogen fertilizers. An absolutely safe fertilizer for all plants is Atlas Fertilizer Emulsion, used by many commercial growers. If you started feeding camellias and azaleas in April, July should be the last feeding for the season. Feed gardenias once a month. Cottonseed or castor bean meal is best. Sow seeds of annuals for fall and winter bloom and perennials for next spring bloom. Many annuals are available for transplanting now for quick bloom. Lift, divide and replant daffodils, narcissus and iris now. Work in bone meal at the rate of 3 to 4 lbs. per sq. ft. of bed. Keep your spray and dusting program going. Keep out snail and slug bait. Keep planting vegetables and if you are having trouble with sod web worm in your lawn, consult Your Garden in the spring isue of California Garden for instruction.

AUGUST—

Go over the garden and remove spent annuals and all garden debris and put on compost pile. Soak areas where you are preparing the soil for re-planting. Work in compost or well-rotted manure, then transplant annuals and perennials. Fresh manures do the soil and plants more harm than good. You will have to rot your own, as none is available, regardless of what you are told. Now is best time to start cuttings of geraniums and pelargoniums. Use one-half sand and one-half soil as a rooting medium. One gardener I know has excellent results in rooting her cuttings in pure leaf mold. Finish sowing seeds of perennials. Dutch and Spanish Iris can go in now. Prune cane and bramble fruits. Remove old canes to make room for new growth. A play of water through foliage of plants during summer serves a two-fold purpose —keeps the foliage clean and discourages red mite and thrip, but do not make the practice suffice for actual watering of garden. Deep irrigation is necessary to make roots go deeper. Key to a successful garden is in learning requirements of plants growing in your garden. Some require full sun, some less, some are exacting as to soil and moisture. When you make a study of how plants live and grow, you will become sensitive to their needs.

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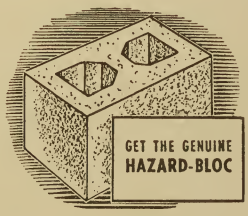

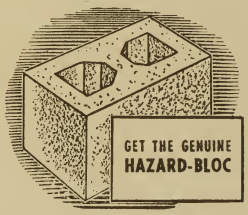

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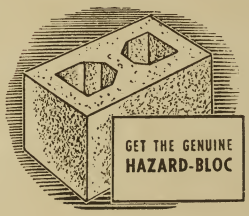

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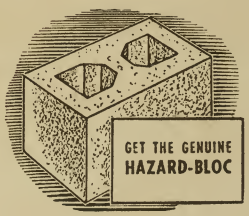

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